IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method for optically pumping a light amplifying medium, comprising:

optically pumping with at least one light source the amplifying medium;

reflecting the light from the source with a wall of a diffusive reflector encircling the amplifying medium; and

sending a beam directly from the source towards the wall of the diffusive reflector so the beam undergoes successive diffusive reflections thereon and the amplifying medium is placed out of the beam directly sent from the source so that the amplifying medium is optically pumped only by the ~~sole~~ light reflected by the wall of the diffusive reflector.

Claim 14 (currently amended): An optical pumping module comprising:

a light amplifying medium,

at least one light source for optically pumping the amplifying medium, and

a diffusive reflector which encircles the amplifying medium, the reflector including a wall configured to reflect light from the source,

wherein the source is orientated so as to send a beam directly from the source towards the wall of the reflector so that the beam undergoes successive diffusive reflections thereon and the amplifying medium is placed out of the beam directly sent from the source toward the wall so that the amplifying medium is optically pumped only by the ~~sole~~ light reflected by the wall of the diffusive reflector.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The module according to claim 14, wherein the amplifying medium forms a cylindrical rod with a substantially circular base, the light source is for transverse optical pumping of the medium, and the wall of the diffusive reflector forms a cylinder with generatrices parallel to an axis of the amplifying medium.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The module according to claim 15, wherein the diffusive reflector has substantially a same length as the amplifying medium.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The module according to claim 15, wherein the base of the cylinder formed by the wall of the diffusive reflector is selected from substantially regular polygons, ellipses, and circles.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The module according to claim 15, wherein the light source is a light emitter selected from a laser diode, a laser diode array parallel to generatrices of the cylinder formed by the wall of the diffusive reflector, a row of laser diode arrays parallel to generatrices of the cylinder formed by the wall of the diffusive reflector, a stack of laser diode arrays parallel to generatrices of the cylinder formed by the wall of the diffusive reflector, and a combination of a row of laser diode arrays parallel to generatrices of the cylinder formed by the wall of the diffusive reflector and a stack of laser diode arrays parallel to the generatrices of the cylinder formed by the wall of the diffusive reflector.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The module according to claim 15, further comprising plural blocks, each block comprising a planar face, configured to reflect the light from the source in a diffusive manner,

wherein a base of the cylinder formed by the wall of the diffusive reflector is a substantially regular polygon, the wall comprising plural sides, each of the sides being formed by two respective planar faces of two adjacent blocks.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The module according to claim 19, wherein the light source is placed in a gap formed between two adjacent blocks of the plural blocks in such a way that the light emerges from a space formed between the respective planar faces of the two adjacent blocks and reaches the wall of the diffusive reflector.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The module according to claim 18, further comprising: plural blocks, each block comprising a planar face, configured to reflect the light from the source in a diffusive manner,

wherein a base of the cylinder formed by the wall of the diffusive reflector is a substantially regular polygon, the wall comprising several sides, each of the sides being formed by two respective planar faces of two adjacent blocks,

wherein the light source is placed in a gap formed between two adjacent blocks of the plural blocks in such a way that the light emerges from a space formed between the respective planar faces of the two adjacent blocks and reaches the wall of the diffusive reflector, and

wherein both blocks are electrically conducting and the laser diode or the laser diode arrays are electrically powered by the two blocks.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The module according to claim 14, wherein the light source is a light emitter.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The module according to claim 14, wherein the light source comprises a light propagation means having one end for receiving the light from a light emitter and another end for sending the received light towards the wall of the diffusive reflector.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The module according to claim 14, wherein the diffusive reflector is quasi-lambertian.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the wall of the diffusive reflector comprises a diffusive ceramic.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the wall of the diffusive reflector comprises a diffusive polymer.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the wall of the diffusive reflector comprises a sandblasted metal.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The method according to claim 13, where in the wall of the diffusive reflector comprises means for diffusing the light from the source.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The module according to claim 14, wherein the wall of the diffusive reflector comprises a diffusive ceramic.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The module according to claim 14, wherein the wall of the diffusive reflector comprises a diffusive polymer.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The module according to claim 14, wherein the wall of the diffusive reflector comprises a sandblasted metal.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The method according to claim 14, where in the wall of the diffusive reflector comprises means for diffusing the light from the source.